

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/764,955

Examiner

Phylesha L. Dabney

Applicant(s)

KATO, HIDEO

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 8/8/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

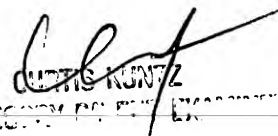
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 9/12/07
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


CURTIS KUNTZ
SUPERVISOR OF PATENT EXAMINERS
TECHNOLOGY

DETAILED ACTION

This action is in response to the Interview Conducted on 24 July 2007 wherein claims 1-10 are pending.

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Atty Peter C. Michalos (845-359-7700) on September 12, 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the Claims

In claim 1, line 6, make the following additions and deletions:

a cam member attached to said shaft passing in a central [axially] axial direction [through said shaft]

In claim 8, line 6, make the following additions and deletions:

a cam member attached to said shaft passing in a central [axially] axial direction [through said shaft]

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claims 1, and 3-14: the instant applicant is deemed to be directed to a nonobvious improvement over Patent No. 6115886 (Fujita). The prior art of record fails to teach a small-sized opening and closing device which relatively connects connecting portions of a first member and connecting portions of a second member, which construct a small-sized electronics device, with each other to open and close, comprising: a shaft; a cam member, a slider cam; a compression spring; *wherein each cam portion of said cam member is separated into an inner cam convex portion located on an axial core side and an outer cam convex portion located on an outer circumferential side, and said inner cam convex portion faces to said outer cam convex portion over an axial core portion; wherein each cam portion of said slider cam consists of a 180 degrees symmetric inner cam comprising two pairs of convex portions located on an axial core side and concave portions, and a 180 degrees symmetric outer cam comprising two pairs of convex portions located on an outer circumferential side, and said inner cam and said outer cam are each formed by moving in a circumferential direction relative to positions of said inner cam convex portion and said outer cam convex portion, and; wherein said inner cam and said outer cam faces to said inner cam convex portion and said outer cam convex portion respectively.*

Claim 2 (currently amended): The small-sized opening and closing device according to claim 1, wherein said slider cam is provided slidably in a cam case fixedly inserted into deformed mounting hole provided on connecting portions either of said first member and said second member with a baffle on the outside, while arresting its rotation, as substantially described and connected with the other functional language of the recited claims.

Art Unit: 2614

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phylesha L. Dabney whose telephone number is 571-272-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays 8:30-4 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curtis Kuntz can be reached on 571-272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(703) 273-8300, for formal communications intended for entry and for informal or draft communications, please label "Proposed" or "Draft" when submitting an informal amendment.

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:


Customer Service Window
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Art Unit: 2614

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

September 11, 2007

PLD


CURTIS KUNZ
SUPERVISORY INVENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2000